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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Mark S. ABAD *et al.*

Appl. No.: 09/696,664

Filed: October 25, 2000

For: **Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated with Plants**

Art Unit: 1631

Examiner: Michael L. BORIN

Atty. Docket: 38-21(51721)B

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**Response to Restriction Requirement**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 31, 2003, Applicants submit the following remarks.

***Remarks***

The application presently contains claims 1-7. In the Office Action mailed January 31, 2003 (Paper Number 10), the Examiner required restriction to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

Group I: Claim 1, drawn to polynucleotides, classified in class 536, subclass 23.1;

Group II: Claim 2, drawn to a purified polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide of Group I, classified in class 530, subclass 300; and

Group III: Claims 3-7, drawn to a transformed plant, classified in class 800, subclass 205.